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4/7/92

Dear Roger,

Sorry I was not able to respond sooner to your 4/1. I can't keep up with things as I used to, I have more medical appointments, and in addition to all the other things I now have some bad books to read to be able to comment on them if asked-as I hope I'm not.

I do not know whether you were using up an extra or discarded copy but I'm interested in what you say about Wershba and will read it. There is a little more rush now because the next two days will be almost entirely medical. Tomorrow Lil's younger sister drives me to Johns Hopkins for a month shot of luprin in the hope of avoiding another prostate operation and when we get back I have an appointment with the neurologist who twice sent me to a sleep-disorder clinic for overnight testing. The first established that I have sleep apnea, breathing only about 15% of the time I sleep on my back but about 70+% when on my side. The second was to determine whether an appliance forcing air into a mask could be helpful and the damned thing would not stay on. The next day begins with blood testing, followed by physical therapy, and I have two medical appointments later.

So, sorry that I could not respond earlier, I do now in haste.

With some of the paper that has been accumulating with a clean side. Beginning with the 1973 energy crisis, when I learned the great amount of energy required to make paper I started saving it for rough drafts. Of which I've had fewer for various reasons. So I have quite a stack by now!

What I've been doing in recent months with letters that mean something to me when I am not able to respond when I read them is use a highlighter to mark what I should respond to. Your letter is handwritten so you also may not recall some of it.

"I was angry because I wanted Greg Stone left alone to make his own decision." I did no more than recommend. The only thing I ever pressured him on, and that not hard as I perhaps should have, was to get back on his PhD and get you to go over Sylvia's records.

How you feel about Jerry is how I would feel and I would feel shocked and dismayed, your words, in your position. However, there having been silence, I presume it has blown over. I hope so! I'd still like to read that story.

I could add that it was additionally dishonest when he knew I'd started the exposure of what Stone was up to not to speak to me. He knew and cared nothing about the other side, nothing but what Stone and Warners wanted him to know and us. As I said of Stone, people who sell sex have more principle. It was primted, too.

You say McCloy "had doubts" about the Report. I hope you can find time to amplify that and give me anything you can on it. I sent him Whitewash, he sent me Short thanks, and if he read it he should have had doubts.

You say about Jerry , "What could he hope to accomplish by this?" There are so many

possible explanations. But I think he has always hungdered for some accomplishment in the field and in this case he from the profundity of his igorance and prejudice agreed with that monster Stone. I doubt he intended hurting you but he cannot have been unaware of the possibility if not the probability.

I'd never thought of legal reprisals against you under the copyright law. That could well preclude any publication. But when you can I think you should put it all together.

I never thought that the Cronkites or Rathers were the problem and my one experience with Midgeley told me all I needed to know about him and policy. I'm glad you think the new CBS news president is trustrworthy. I wish I thought that could mean some improvement in what they present as news and some interest in what they ignore.

What you say about CBS News and the JFK assassination, how it worked in that time of crisis and since as a major journalistic institution, is in keeping with the thrust of me work. It addresses that matter with regard to all out basic institutions.

Don't spend a cent on Livingstone's newest. He lacks both knowledge and understand and it also is so full of mistakes! True also of Dr. Crenshaw's. I'm reading and annotating both but only for the historical record.

I am not up to date on the present situation with regard to the reprinting of Sylvia's book. In my recommendation it was that nothing be changed, not even her knowingly incorrect dating of the books. I did suggest a scholarly foreword, as Wrone of McKnight could do very well because I know the great respect they have for her and for it, rather than some name like Mailer the flailer.

That was the need for the contract. But I've heard that Vintage intends to. It would be cheapest for Vintage because if they did not keep the belt from which offset is printed now (unless that has been superceded) they can photograph the printed book and print from that. This would also discourage any changes otherwise the index would have to be changed. And if they get a Mailer to write a foreword that can have roman numbering. If Vintage is going to do it we should know soon because with the present market they'd be crazy not to rush and seek to exploit it.

On a different matter of which you may or may not have known at the time, right after JFK ordered a crackdown on the soldiers-of-fortune/mercenary anti-Castroites one of them, Alexander Rorke, disappeared flying over Honduras, as I recall en route to a confab they were all having. Many rumors about what happened to that plane. He has a daughter who is trying to get all their records from the FBI and CIA. The FBI refused to search for any t ticklers. Lesar is helping her lawyer, in Maine. He asked me to provide an affidavot on FBI ticklers over the weekend. I faxed it to that lawyer yesterday morning. In the afternoon Lesar phoned to say the lawyer liked it and phoned to tell him that. The point is that it now appears possible he can overcome a previous inhibiting decision that is used as precedent by DJ. Lesar says there are some indications that Rorke may have been working for the

CIA. I asked him to ask the lawyer for copies that she would not be unwilling for me to have for archival purposes.

You refer to your age, now that of Sylvia when she wrote her book. So, tomorrow I'll be 79. When all the many ailments I have are considered, to say nothing of how I've lived, I am lucky and think it is remarkable.

I decided to let other things go and read what you wrote about Wershba and in the first graf you say something about which I'd intended asking you often and forgot. I've always believed that Francis Adams quit the commission early because he would not be part of what he perceived they were up to. And you compare Wershba to him. So, if you have anything on that you can let me have, I surely would like it. I am convinced I am right about why he left but I do now know a single thing else.

By the way, "Inquest" did not become a real best-seller. I bombed it into paperback within a few months. 3 or 4.

I'm where you talk about the critics as seeking of the government only justice for JFK and Oswald. I think the major question is the rewriting of our history, lying about it.

The only criticism I have to now, and think what you did is fine, is that you lump all the nuts in with real critics and say of them what is not justified. How much real, "solid," a word you used, research is being done today, how much is not on the "half-baked theories or half-formed conclusions" you say they eschew? I think this is the one criticism that can be made.

Before I read and correct this as our now early suppertime gets close, KXAS-TV Fort Worth sent a crew around to do a nightly series that totalled about a half-hour. The reporter and his camera/sound man came here about 3 a.m., to which I'd agreed. Or, they worked. Aside from what they filmed I gave them copies of records they used. I had a complaint from Mary Ferrell because of some claims she said they'd made. I wrote them and the reporter, promoted to anchor, disputed what she'd said based on a story by a man whose wife the station had fired. It used some of those documents with real impact. I have no idea what he used of me but he is sending it. They doubled their ratings that week and with the business of the Bronson film turned the new FBI Dallas SAC on. He wants that film enhanced. And I'd heard not a word from any of the Dallas criticis, to my surprise not from Mary Mack, who works for that station.

I decided to get a drink for reading and correcting and that reminded me of what makes me feel better than having the expensive single-malt Scotch I'll be sipping.

Remember one Sunday morning you picked me up on West 81, near the park, an took me to those brunches I always enjoyed with you at Friday's? That was the home of my dear friend Dick Gallen. He was here about a year of so ago because I could be of help to one of his sons. It was more than a year ago because the fine single-malt I offered them, Glenfiddich, had been given to me as an Xmas present and I still had some. Neither wanted any. Nor was either close to the bottle as I poured mine.

I flash back to tell you that years earlier when I'd stayed with the Gallens when their two little boys went to bed it was after farm and animal stories I told them-25 years ago.

Not long after they returned to New York the UPS man came with a large box. He was and told me he was baffled. The box had no UPS stamp or marking. The Third-Avenue address and the name meant nothing to me. He feared that something illegal had been shipped, some prohibited product, the words he used. "So open it," I told him. We were both stunned to see a case of whiskey. He said they are not supposed to handle it.

It turned out that the son had spotted the brand of Scotch. Dick had been dealing with the same man for many years, at least 30. She he asked him if he could send me a csse. "Not supposed to," he was told, "but I think I can."

I have no idea what kind of arrangement he had but he did swing it.

About the time of the past holidays it happened again, this time with Glenlivet. I've enough left for being reminded for many days that people can be thoughtful and can want to and can be. It makes me feel better than the fine flavor of what I would never dream of buying for myself.

It seems like your cause fof concern had passed if not ended, as I hope it has.

I also hope that your situation improves and that you are well and as happy as you can be.

If there is any memorializing of Sylvia on the 2tht I'll let you know.

Best,

Harry